

greatest military force in the history of our great Nation. His tenure as Secretary of Defense will be marked by great advances in the quality of life for our military personnel and their families, the refocusing of the Department of Defense to the new threats of weapons of mass destruction and cyberterrorism, and, more importantly, assuring this Nation's position as the world's only super power.

Bill Cohen is a Renaissance Man of the same mold as the founders of this Nation. A forward thinker who has been an influential voice on defense and security issues since he was first elected to the House of Representatives from Maine's Second Congressional District in 1973. During his eighteen years as a United States Senator representing the State of Maine, Bill Cohen played a leading role in defense matters while a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Not only was he a key sponsor of the Goldwater-Nichols Defense Reorganization Act of 1986, but also the GI Bill of 1984, the Intelligence Oversight Reform Act of 1991, the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 and the Federal Acquisition Reform Act of 1996.

His long and distinguished service to the Nation and the State of Maine, both as a legislator and Secretary of Defense, will serve as a lasting tribute to William S. Cohen. I congratulate him on his long and distinguished career and thank him for the courtesies and friendship he extended to me during his service in the Senate and as Secretary of Defense.

RETIREMENT OF OFFICER OLIVER "ANDY" ANDERS FROM THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE FORCE

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a praiseworthy individual who has dedicated his life to serving the people of this Nation as an officer on the United States Capitol Police Force, Officer Oliver "Andy" Anders. Andy will be retiring from the Capitol Police on November 3, 2000, after 26 years of faithful service. His presence will be missed throughout the halls of Congress.

Over the last three decades I have had the opportunity to get to know Andy. For many years, he greeted me at the doors of the Senate chamber where he stood sentry. I always appreciated having the opportunity to chat with this friendly native of Greer, South Carolina, and I admired the professionalism he demonstrated throughout his tenure.

Too often we fail to properly thank the courageous men and women who, like Officer Anders, serve on the Capitol Police Force. These fine individuals make countless sacrifices to protect and serve both the daily visitors and the workers at the Capitol. They are on guard 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, providing a vital service so that we can walk these

hollowed halls without fear. These officers have continuously displayed integrity and honor, and I commend them for their dedicated service. We are truly in their debt.

At this time, I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Officer Anders health, happiness, and success in all of his future endeavors. He has served his Nation well, and we are grateful for his assistance.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, but still this Republican Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until we act, Democrats in the Senate will read the names of some of those who have lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is in session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight. Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago today.

October 27, 1999:

Ioniaferrio Bolton, 26, Dallas, TX;

Donal Bryant, 31, Dallas, TX;

Merritt J. Copenhefer, 41, Madison, WI;

Aurelio Enciso-Murillo, 40, Oakland, CA;

Angel Garcia, 21, Philadelphia, PA;

Anthony McCullough, 25, Philadelphia, PA;

Audley McIntosh, 49, Dallas, TX;

Donald McNeil, 16, Philadelphia, PA;

Jerome Oakley, 18, Baltimore, MD;

Joseph Transon, 19, Baltimore, MD;

Tyree Turner, 19, Philadelphia, PA;

Paul Vo, 30, Houston, TX; and

Unidentified Male, 52, Charlotte, NC.

One of the victims of gun violence I mentioned, 16-year-old Donald McNeil of Philadelphia, was shot and killed one year ago today by another teenager in what police said was an argument over a girl.

We cannot sit back and allow such senseless gun violence to continue. The deaths of these people are a reminder to all of us that we need to enact sensible gun legislation now.

FAREWELL TO RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, the Bible says in Ecclesiastes, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." And, now, as the 106th Congress is coming to a close, the hour has come to pay tribute to five distinguished colleagues—Senators with whom I have had the honor and pleasure of working. These gentlemen of the Senate have decided that it is now time to embark on a new chapter in their lives.

Each in his own way has left behind a part of their vision for America and

has influenced the course of our country.

The Senate Finance Committee is seeing a great exodus as four of the five Senators retiring served this Committee. I will certainly miss their participation on this committee and the leadership on key issues.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN and I were elected to the Senate from our respective states in the same year—1976. So we two freshman learned the ways of this august body at the same time. And, I have to say to my colleagues who have more recently been elected to this body, that was no minor education. We began our Senate service with giants like James O. Eastland, Barry Goldwater, Hubert Humphrey, and Howard Baker.

The difference was that PAT MOYNIHAN had already had a distinguished career in public service having served as urban affairs advisor to President Nixon and as Ambassador to India and the United Nations. I have always had great admiration for his strong character, great intellect and exceptional diplomacy—particularly on those occasions when it was between warring political parties, not countries.

Senator MOYNIHAN is famous for spotting emerging issues long before anyone else. He has been warning for years that Social Security needs reform. He has urged reform of the alternative minimum tax, and worked tirelessly in the effort to reform a broken welfare system.

On the candor scale, Senator ROBERT KERREY would rank near the top. That is a commodity sadly lacking in many circles—and not just in government, but in business and academia as well. BOB KERREY has been as courageous about sharing his opinions as he was when serving in the Vietnam war, during which he was awarded a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and our nation's highest honor, the Congressional of Medal of Honor.

He left the governorship of Nebraska with a 70 percent approval rating, which tells us something about his record of employing common sense and exercising integrity in governance. Nebraskans are no nonsense, hard-working people. They would not have tolerated any less.

BOB KERREY has put those same virtues to work in the Senate, particularly in our bipartisan efforts to reform Social Security and Medicare as well as the IRS.

I am going to miss my colleague from the West, Senator RICHARD BRYAN. Though we have not agreed on every issue—who does?—we have a common appreciation for the impact of federal policy on the western states.

I was also most appreciative and grateful for his honest, straightforward, and thorough leadership of the Senate Ethics Committee—no doubt one of the more thankless jobs in the Senate. But, every senator, regardless of political party, could be assured that, if wrongs had been committed,